



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Ted Stewart
Executive Director

James W. Carter
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801
801-538-5340
801-359-3940 (Fax)
801-538-7223 (TDD)

June 10, 1997

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *aa*

RE: Site Inspection, Pene Mining, Pussycat Mine, S/019/030, Grand County, Utah

Date of Inspection: May 5, 1997
Time of Inspection: 1545 - 1730
Conditions: Overcast, warm
Participants: Ron Pene, Operator; Will Stokes, SITLA; Tony Gallegos, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To examine areas of recent mining activity at the site.

We continued from the Wind River Resources site to Ron Pene's Pussycat claim site. We stopped at the northern boundary of the claims for a brief overview from Mr. Pene. We then continued along the road to where there is a WSA sign. We continued from this point in Mr. Pene's vehicle. We stopped to view the fence installed by the BLM to prevent cattle access to the river area and the old miners cabin which is frequented by river runners. At this time, cattle were both inside and outside of the fence. Photographs were taken of this area.

While driving in to the site, Mr. Pene pointed out several BLM sample locations. These sample locations were used by the BLM to prepare a validity exam. There were small excavations visible at nearly all these sites which were usually marked with a metal stake and an identification tag. Photographs were taken of several of these BLM sample spots.

We then continued to the area of recent mining activity. Several photographs were taken of this area from different vantage points. Features present at this area included a pond, which is bermed. At this time, cattle were in this area as well. Mr. Pene explained that this pond was made on an existing pond area used by the old timers. He bladed out the area and used the existing berm. The material excavated out of the pond was placed up along the berm or pushed out on a small ramp to create a level area. Another feature present in this area is an excavation into the hillside. This excavation has left a minor highwall in some of the sandy soils. There is a small road/path around the pond over to the excavation. Also present at the site were several sections of white PVC pipe along the main processing area and a small trommel system. There was also a water pump with a flexible blue hose leading down toward the river.

Mr. Pene explained that the recent work done on the site was not actually performed by him, but by some other folks he had hired. He explained that the current condition of the site is not in a state he would have left it. He felt that the site was a little unkept. The blue hose should have been rolled up and he agreed that perhaps the highwall was not safe or stable. The estimated area of disturbance at the "active" mining area would be approximately 160 feet x 90 feet.

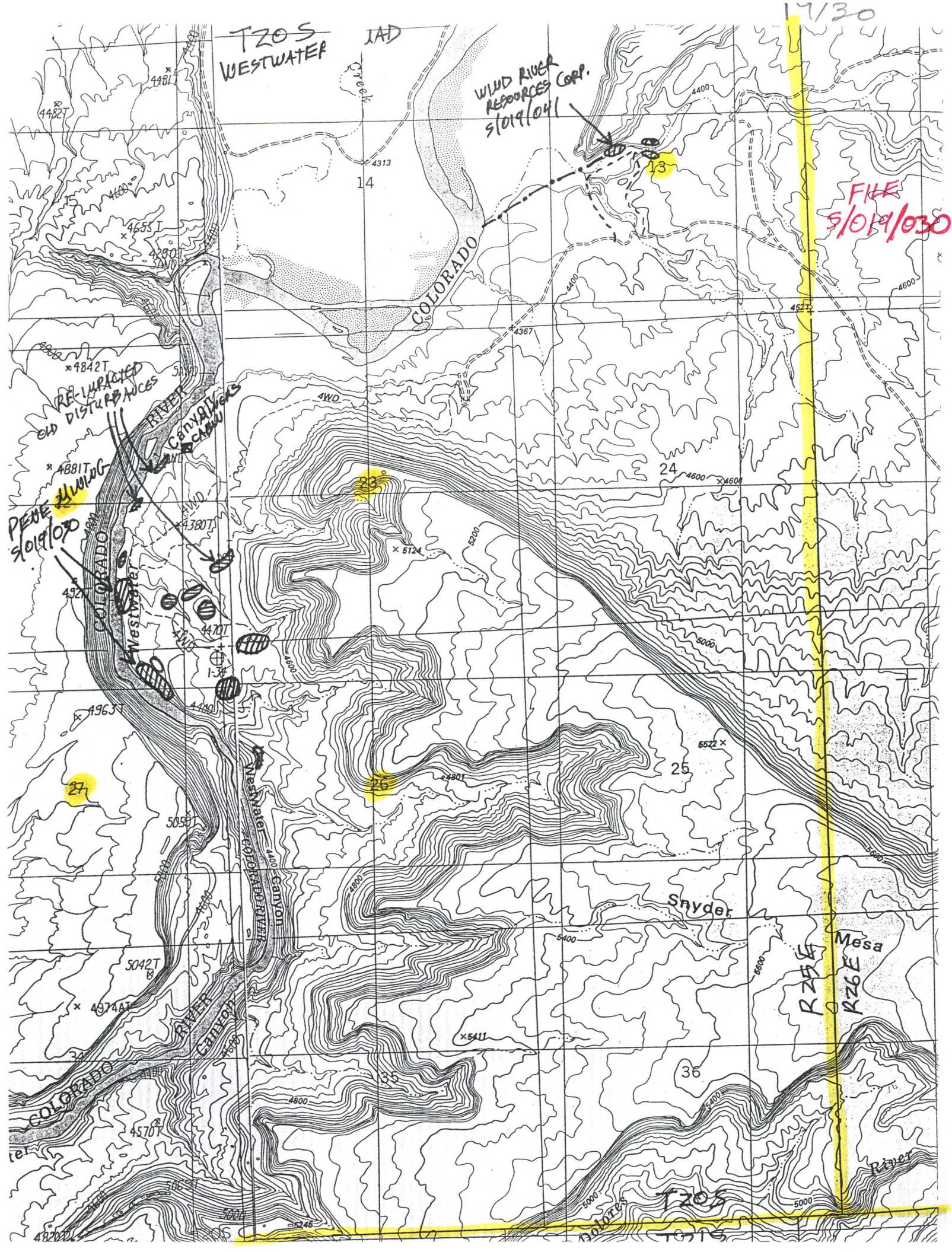
From this area we continued with Mr. Pene to look at additional sites BLM sampling sites and other areas that he had been sampling or actively mining. According to Mr. Pene, the cabins in this area or the old wooden structures and some of the roads were supposedly built around 1929, when most of these cabins were built. There were a number of white PVC pipes that were visible at corner markers. Mr. Pene mentioned these pipes had been left by the BLM during part of the validity exam. A number of these pipes were readily visible since some of them were very long.

We next visited the southern end of the mining claims. This would be near the borders of the Pussycat claims #3 and #2. We visited an area which Mr. Pene referred to as the Old Mine. This was the site of an old mine entry or digging into the hill with a small dump at the base of it. He used some of this material for processing and during the course of this he added some material onto the existing dump.

Another area visited at this southern end of the site was referred to as Tony's Point. This was also an area of pre-existing disturbance, or an area which the old timers had mined which Mr. Pene reimpacted. The mining disturbance at this location is a trench excavation. Mr. Pene excavated some materials out of this trench and processed them. We drove around what Mr. Pene had called his equipment area. At this time, a small bobcat loader and a drag were present in this area.

In conclusion before leaving this site, I informed Mr. Pene that under the Division's rules there were a few things that he would need to attend to. In general he would need to comply with the reclamation and operation practices described by the Small Mining Operation Rules. One task would be to reduce the highwall hazard at the excavation of the active mining area. Another task would be to arrange the active mine site into a more orderly fashion. This would mean cleaning up some of the debris and consolidating all the piping, hose and equipment into one area. Although the Division's rules do not deal with visual impacts, by taking these measures he would greatly reduce the visual impact to river users.

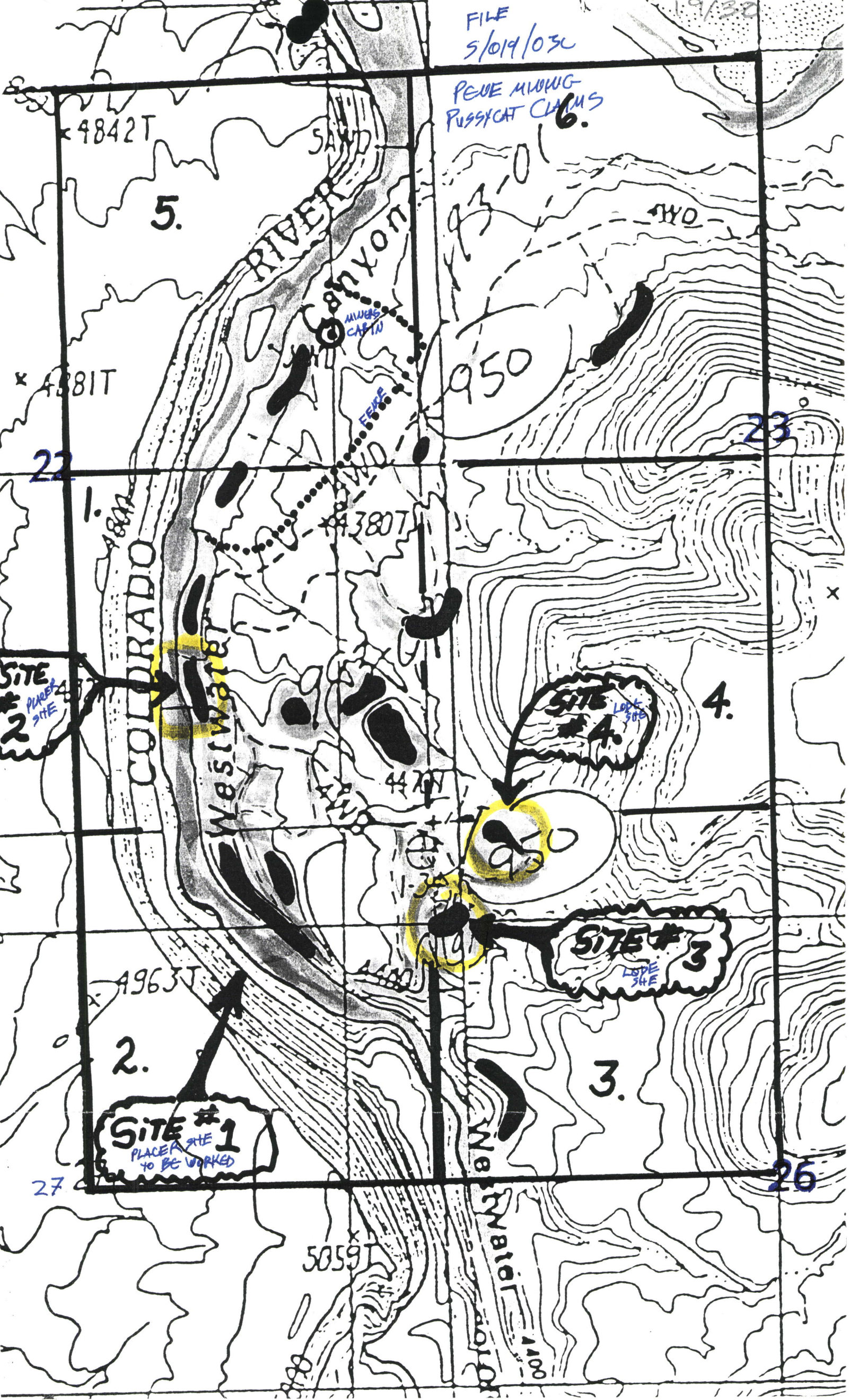
jb
cc: Ron Pene, Operator
Rich McClure, Moab BLM
Lowell Braxton, Deputy Director, DOGM
Mary Ann Wright, Associate Director, DOGM
S019030.ins



FILE
5/019/03C

19/32

PEVE MINING
PUSSYCAT CLAIMS 6.





9/019/030
PENE MINING

